

# NWMISSOURIAN

9/28/06

V81 / N6

CONVERGING CAMPUS & COMMUNITY

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## WEEKENDWEATHER

**FRIDAY**



HI 71  
LO 49

**SATURDAY**



HI 74  
LO 48

**SUNDAY**



HI 77  
LO 61

## DEPRESSION SCREENING

Northwest's Counseling Center will host a "National Depression Screening Day" Oct. 5 at the Student Union. They can screen for depression, mood and anxiety disorders, bipolar disorder, generalized anxiety disorder and post traumatic stress disorder.

## NATIONAL HAZING PREVENTION WEEK

Sept. 25-29.

## TODAY

"Swimming with SAC" 10 p.m. to midnight at the Foster Aquatics Center.

X-Box 360 Factor, noon to 6 p.m. in the Union.

Intramural flag football entries close and meeting, 4 p.m.

"The Laramie Project," 7:30 p.m., Mary Linn Performing Arts Center.

## WEEKEND

BRUSH, Saturday, Sept. 30, and Oct. 1. Volunteers needed to help beautify homes around Maryville.

## MONDAY

Jody Boyer and Russ Nordman Video Art Exhibit opens, lecture and reception, 7 p.m., 244 Olive DeLuce Fine Arts Building.

## TUESDAY

Education majors: Spring 2007 student teaching applications due to TESS office.

## CORRECTION

In the Sept. 21 edition of the Northwest Missourian we incorrectly identified Lt. Gov. Peter Kinder as John Kinder in a photograph.

## KNWT CHANNEL 8 PROGRAMMING SCHEDULE

Monday-Thursday

7 p.m. Etc.  
7:30 p.m. Inside Northwest  
8 p.m. Bearcat Update  
8:30 p.m. Bearcat Idol

**www.nwmissourian.com**

Visit the web for:

Visit our online addition for a slideshow of KNWT's "Bearcat Idol," which is videotaped every Tuesday at The Pub from 9 to 10 p.m.

## Explosion injures student

**Kristin Summers**  
*Chief Reporter*

A man was injured in a propane explosion Tuesday afternoon on Highway H.

Northwest student Clint Johnson was working on a skid loader at Shipps grain elevator when he backed into and punctured a 6,000 gallon propane tank.

Johnson is currently hospitalized at the University of Kansas Medical Center. Officials could not confirm his condition as of press time.

Gary Shipps, who owns the grain elevator, was in a nearby shed and heard the explosion, according to Keith Wood, director of Maryville Public Safety.

Johnson was able to remove himself from the skid loader and away from the tank that had around 4,000 gallons of propane in it.

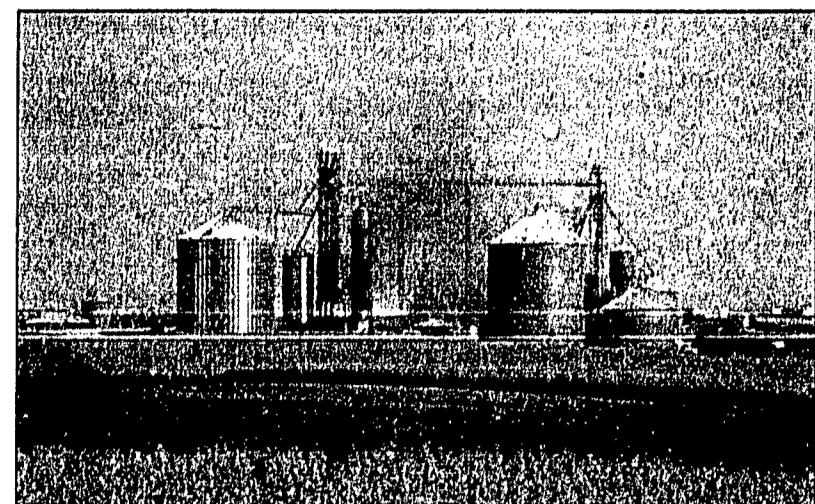
The explosion occurred at 1:07 p.m., Tuesday Sept. 26. Minor explosions followed in the adjoining machine shed. Everything in the shed was burnt including at least two bulldozer tractors.

Wood said they were worried the explosion would cause a BLEVE, a boil-

ing liquid evaporating vapor explosion. At first, police thought it was a grain dust explosion but then they became worried about various hazards that could have altered the situation.

Initially police were concerned with some of the chemicals, including those around the tank, but the majority of the chemicals were stored in another building.

After the explosion Wood said the biggest problem was being able to have enough water at the scene to keep the propane from boiling. The last unit left the scene around 7:30 p.m.



**Smoke streams** from the grain warehouse south of town on Highway H after a propane tank exploded and caught one building on fire. Northwest student Clint Johnson was flown to the University of Kansas Medical Center in Kansas City with unknown injuries.

## So, you want to be a STAR?

Into its second week of competition, 'Bearcat Idol' shines the spotlight on talented Northwest students



**Judges Wesley Miller** provides comments before revealing the score he gave to one of the contestants Tuesday night as judges Stephanie Costanzo and Logan Galloway wait their turn. (Top) Kara Adams and Emily Shelor perform in the tie-breaker.



**Tara Adkins, Stephanie Stangl**  
*Chief Reporter, Editor in Chief*

Singing "Happy Birthday" never means so much.

After Northwest student Kara Adams belted out "New York State of Mind," by Billy Joel, and Emily Shelor tried her hand at "I Will Always Love You," by Whitney Houston, each received perfect eights from all three judges during Tuesday's taping of "Bearcat Idol."

Show producer's decided having each sing "Happy Birthday" would determine the winner.

The University's television station, KNWT-TV, has student-produced the show, inspired by "American Idol" and other reality TV shows.

"We've produced our own spin-off of American Idol that has created a big buzz among students," said Steve Serrano, co-producer and co-host.

Each week, eight contestants will perform their choice of karaoke song at the Maryville Pub. Weekly judges will rate each act based on vocals, energy level and overall performance.

"People can watch their friends on TV and connect with the local programming that will help with our viewership but also provide everyone with a good laugh," Serrano said.

KNWT, X106 and the Student Activities Council sponsor the series. Members of each organization will rotate each week to judge performances throughout the season.

Prizes include \$25 gift cards to Wal-Mart, a \$100 iTunes gift card and a grand prize of \$500 with the opportunity to open for the act the University brings in for the spring concert.

But not everyone Tuesday night received perfect eights from the judges; in fact, nearly all the other contestants scored significantly lower. Northwest student Dan Whitcare's performance of "Hanging by a Moment," by Lifehouse, failed to impress the judges, earning him scores of fives and sixes, even though he is serious about singing and possibly starting a band.

"It was a little tough," Whitcare said. "I haven't sung in awhile and it was tough to just pick a song out of their list." Winners from each show will open for the following week's show and will advance to the finals in 10 weeks to compete for the grand prize.

see IDOL on 6A

## Politics possible factor in low gas prices

**Kristin Summers**  
*Chief Reporter*

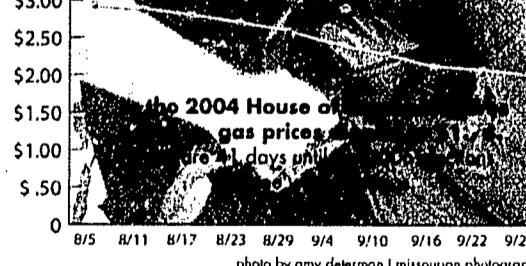
Pumping gas into his red truck as his little dog Sassy anxiously waits for him, a big sign beside him reads \$2.06.

Jim Piveral, 75, remembers gas costing only 19 cents back in 1949. Though Piveral thinks the price of gas today deals mainly with oil companies being greedy, he doesn't want to believe that politics could be a factor in gas prices.

With the upcoming elections in November several polls show correlation between Bush's approval ratings and the recent declines in the price of gas.

According to a study printed in *USA TODAY* by Doug Henwood, editor of the *Left Business Observer*, found that 78 percent of the movement in Bush's approval ratings could be linked to

**Missouri Gas Prices—Aug. 8, to Sept. 28**



changes in gas prices.

Fred Lamer, an associate professor in the mass communications department, said that Republicans are in danger of losing the House of Representatives in November and by using gas prices to persuade voters will only help them.

"Who politically benefits?" Lamer said. "It's not the Democrats. If gas stays cheap and television stays cheap then they (Republicans) have a much better chance of retaining the house."

However, (Mo-R) Brad Lager, Missouri's fourth district state representative, said gas prices deal with supply and demand and believes that the government does not control gas prices.

Lamer said he believes gas consumption is ultimately driven by the current market and on what the consumer is willing to pay.

Adrienne Marsh, spokesperson for Democrat Claire McCaskill, said it does seem odd about Bush's approval ratings correlating with gas prices.

Lamer said historical data and circumstances led him to take notice in the links between elections

see GAS on 6A

## CRASH

Maryville Public Safety was involved in a crash Tuesday, Sept. 19, at 7:45 a.m. An investigation was conducted by the Missouri Highway Patrol.

photo: submission by william murphy

## PHOTO SUBMISSIONS

Did you go somewhere great over your summer break? Did you take a great photo over the summer you'd like everyone to see? Send us your photos to [northwestmissourian@hotmail.com](mailto:northwestmissourian@hotmail.com) for a chance to be published in an upcoming issue of the Northwest Missourian.

## EXPLORING MAJORS

Draven Nevermore signs in at the Exploring Majors events Tuesday. Exploring Majors helps undecided majors choose their field of study.

photo: dana wickwire | missourian photographer

## CAMPUSBRIEFS

**Noted professor to deliver this year's Ploghoft Lecture**

Robert L. Williams, professor emeritus at Washington University in St. Louis, will deliver this year's Ploghoft Lecture at 8 p.m., Wednesday, Oct. 4, at the Mary Linn Performing Arts Center. The lecture is free and open to the public.

Williams is best known for popularizing ebonics, a style of English used by some African-Americans.

During his teaching career, Williams served 22 years as a professor of psychology, African studies and African-American studies at Washington University, where he developed the Institute of Black Studies and served as its first director.

Williams has published more than 60 professional articles and two books, appearing on numerous television programs, such as "The Phil Donahue Show" and "The Montel Williams Show." He has also been featured on the Black Entertainment Television network and "NBC News."

Each year, the Ploghoft Lecture series brings individuals to campus who have a distinguished record in the promotion of racial harmony and internationalism.

## Mexican ballet kicks off Encore performing arts series

Ballet Folklórico de México, one of Mexico's premier folk dance companies, will open Northwest's 2006-2007 Encore performing arts series at 7:30 p.m., Tuesday, Oct. 3, at the Mary Linn Performing Arts Center.

Combining Mexican folk traditions with classic ballet and modern dance, Ballet Folklórico has grown to become the largest and most renowned dance companies in the Americas since the late Mexican choreographer Amalia Hernandez started it in 1952.

Tickets are \$25 for orchestra seats and \$23 for balcony seats. They can be purchased from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday at the Students Services Center on the first floor of the Administration Building, or online at [Nwmosaic.com](http://Nwmosaic.com).

MOSAIC will feature intercole-

## Group strives for culture appreciation

Andrea James  
Missourian Reporter

legate competitions, speakers, workshops and a banquet.

The Northwest multicultural organization will help plan an event they hope will increase appreciation for cultural differences.

Northwest's Intercultural and International Center is co-sponsoring MOSAIC, Midwest Organization of Students Advancing Interculturalism, along with the Unity Project. The Unity Project is an intercollegiate student organization that is devoted to diversity and multiculturalism, according to Nwmosaic.com.

MOSAIC hopes to raise awareness and appreciation of other cultures with its "Rising Up and Reaching Out" event on Friday, Oct. 6, and Saturday, Oct. 7 at Northwest, according to Ame Lambert, Director of Minority Affairs.

"It gives us new opportunities to celebrate life and human culture. There is something here for everyone," Lambert said.

MOSAIC will feature intercole-



photo by kelli white | photography editor

Alumni award recipient Sean O'Brien talks during the banquet Friday night. O'Brien was honored for his legal work with clients on death row, which includes saving three innocent people from execution.

This is MOSAIC's first appearance at Northwest and the participants are hoping it will go well, according to Northwest senior Sauda Holman who has been advertising on and off campus for the event.

"The first time for something is always the hardest," Holman said.

Tickets are \$10 for Northwest students and \$15 for non-students.

They are available at the IIC front desk, at the information booth on the second floor of the Union and on the first floor of the Union at the food court. For more information and a list of the weekend events contact Lambert at [lambert@nwmmissouri.edu](mailto:lambert@nwmmissouri.edu) or go to [Nwmosaic.com](http://Nwmosaic.com).

MOSAIC will feature intercole-

## Northwest honors alumni at banquet

Lindsay Jacobs, Kristin Summers  
Chief Reporters

excellent teaching and service for many years at Northwest.

She was an associate professor of family and consumer sciences for 33 years. Rowlette was the director of freshmen seminar, and the adviser for Alpha Sigma Alpha sorority. She retired in 2004.

Brad Lager, class of 1997, was awarded the Young Alumni Award. This award is for a graduate of Northwest who received their diploma in the last decade. The recipient must also demonstrate outstanding professional and volunteer efforts.

Lager, Missouri's fourth district state representative, said this award made him grateful.

While at Northwest Lager never imagined participating in politics, he was more interested in business and the competitive world.

Lager said he grew as a person in his four years at Northwest and was involved in numerous activities.

"I went to school with many great people," Lager said.

Brenda Untiedt, alumni relations specialist, said the banquet went well, and this year two new awards were given. The Kansas City Alumni and Friends Chapter received the Outstanding Chapter Award. Mark Pickrel was awarded the Outstanding Chapter Member of the Year Award. Pickrel is from the St. Joseph Alumni and Friends Chapter.

This year's banquet offered a chance for alumni to get a picture taken with their family.

Portraits were taken by Bateman Photography in Maryville.

The Northwest Big Band was on hand to provide swing music.

Untiedt said the Alumni Association accepts nominations from faculty and staff year round for the awards banquet.

Nominations for the 2007 banquet are being accepted until Feb. 15, 2007.

## SERVIN' UP SOME SAFETY

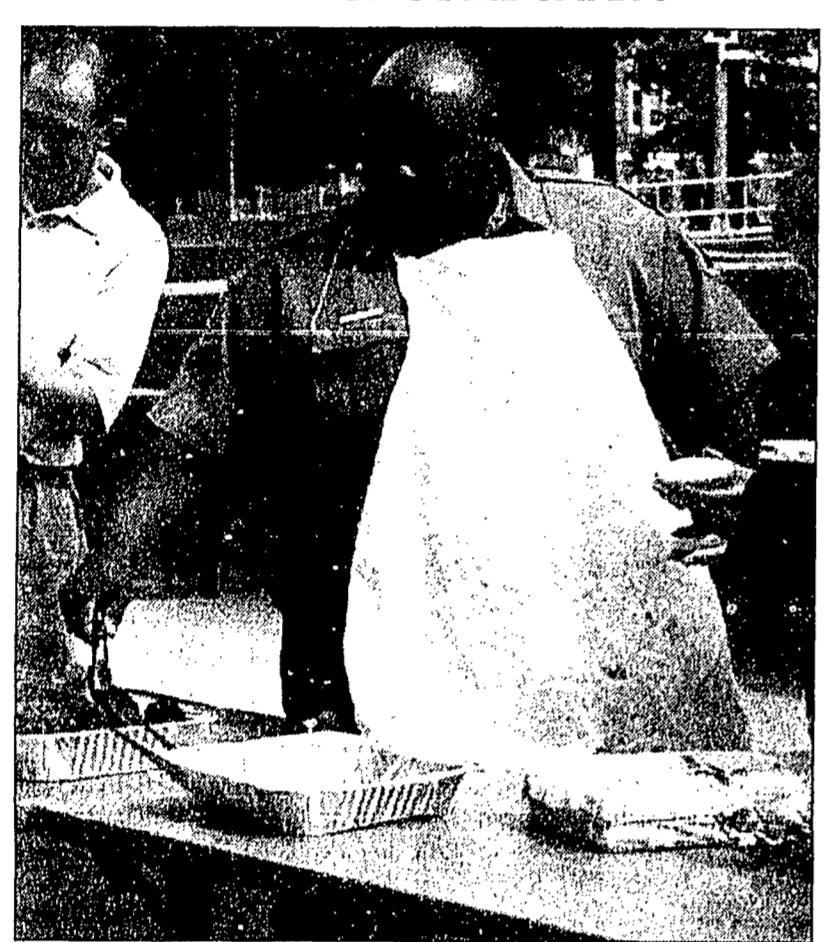


photo by kelli white | photography editor

Director of Campus Safety Clarence Green serves hamburgers during a barbecue on campus Wednesday. Campus Safety and Peer Education sponsored "Drive Safe, Drive Smart" to raise awareness about responsible driving.

The St. Louis Brass Quintet will perform at 8 p.m. Monday, Oct. 9, in the Olive DeLuce Fine Arts Building's Charles Johnson Theatre. Admission is free.

Considered one of the world's top experts on international terrorism, al Qaeda and Osama bin Laden, Bergen has written numerous books and articles on the subjects and, as a CNN producer in 1997, produced bin Laden's first television interview.

Born in Minneapolis in 1962, Bergen was raised in London and received a bachelor's degree in modern history from New College, Oxford University. He is a fellow at the New America Foundation in Washington, D.C., and an adjunct professor at Johns Hopkins University's School of Advanced International Studies.

## St. Louis Brass Quintet comes to campus for free concert

The St. Louis Brass Quintet will perform at 8 p.m. Monday, Oct. 9, in the Olive DeLuce Fine Arts Building's Charles Johnson Theatre. Admission is free.

Members of the St. Louis Symphony orchestra formed the quintet 40 years ago. Their repertoire features a variety of musical genres, ranging from Baroque and Renaissance classics, to folk songs, to jazz standards and popular tunes from the great American songbook. The concert is made possible through the support of the Missouri Arts Council, Bach Instruments and a Northwest Culture of Quality grant.

## University of Central Missouri; Mules get new name

On Thursday, Sept. 21, Central Missouri State University in Warrensburg was renamed the University of Central Missouri.

Since opening in 1871 as the State Normal School for the Second Normal District of Missouri, the now-UCM has undergone five name changes.

The institution estimates it will cost roughly \$200,000 to complete the change across campus, including the replacement of items such as signs and scoreboards.

## KXCV hires new manager

Ted Riley from Stillwater, Okla., has been hired to replace Sharon Bonnet, as general manager of KXCV, Northwest's public radio station.

Bonnet retired on July 1 after 34 years. Riley will begin work on Nov. 13.

## Yearbook, online newspaper are Pacemaker finalists

The Northwest Missouri online, [Nwmmissouri.com](http://Nwmmissouri.com), the Tower yearbook and Tower DVD are Pacemaker finalists judged by the Associated Collegiate Press. The two staffs will attend the ACP National Conference in October.

## Foundation president optimistic for future

Jessica Schmidt  
Managing Editor



Jim Blackford

Board of Directors President

Inc. Board of Directors. Blackford replaces former president Chuck Place of Albany, Mo.

Established in 1971, the private not-for-profit corporation works with the University to manage resources given by donors to the foundation that eventually go to officiating football games.

With an ever-increasing demand for private support to help state universities, Blackford said the foundation that eventually goes to officiating football games.

Yet, the senior vice president of Citizens Band and Trust in Maryville continues to add to his long-list of leadership roles.

As of July 1, 2006, Blackford officially took over as president of the Northwest Foundation.

According to Blackford, the col-

lege-unit system assigns advanced opportunity for us to appeal to that group."

A 1972 Northwest alumnus, Blackford is also the former chief financial officer and co-owner of LMP Steel & Wire Co. He is a member of the Community of Faith Board of Directors, the Maryville Rotary Club, the St. Francis Hospital Foundation Board of Directors and the Nodaway County Economic Development Board of Directors.

"When I look back at my time at Northwest the opportunity and the benefits it gave me, the opportunity to pay back is a real motivator to pursue a position like this," Blackford said.

Orie Covert, Northwest's vice president for university advancement and executive director of the Northwest Foundation, said that

Blackford has plenty of experience for the job.

"There's no question that Jim brings an overwhelming amount of expertise to the table," Covert said in press release. "It's also important to note that Chuck Place has done an outstanding job leading the Foundation through a memorable time in the University's history."

Blackford hopes under his leadership the foundation can help potential donors realize the benefits their contributions can have.

"When we measure success we usually measure it with dollars received, dollars collected. We need to understand that it's not just the dollars in and of themselves. It's how we use the money for the growth," Blackford said. "The real benefit is what could be done with those dollars."

With each group of graduates that become part of our alumni family are possible donors and that's an ever-growing group," Blackford said. "In the next few years we also will have the 'baby boomers,' which we all know are a large group... But they have reached that place in their life where they have the capacity to do so and have an interest in giving back. So that is a plus and a unique window of

opportunity for us to appeal to that group."

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## -OUR VIEW

## No more excuses

Comfort is a small price to pay.

At least when it comes to preventative health care measures that may one day save your life.

But, alas, the days of stripping down to your skivvies, adorning yourself in a hospital gown and placing your breast on a cold, hard mammography machine are long gone—thanks to St. Francis Hospital.

The hospital recently purchased MammoPads, or foam discs placed over the compression plates of the mammography machines. Most women avoid getting these crucial tests done because of the excruciatingly cold and sometimes painful compression plates.

Well, no more excuses; it's time to push aside your fears and get these tests done for the first time when you reach 35 to 40 and annually after age 40. Another sure-fire sign that you need to venture in to get a mammogram is if you find a painless, hard lump in your breast. Some cancers can also be soft and rounded, so it's important if you find anything unusual to get it immediately checked by a physician.

Also, we cannot stress the importance of performing monthly breast exams on yourself to detect abnormalities that you should have checked out by your physician.

Breast cancer is the most prevalent form of cancer among women, affecting nearly 41,000 women each year, according to Cancer.org. A woman's chance of developing breast cancer in her lifetime is 1 in 8.

October is "Breast Cancer Awareness Month." Let's use this kickoff as a reminder to not only get ourselves in for mammograms and to do monthly breast examinations, but to also spread the word to the other women we love such as our mothers, daughters, aunts and grandmothers.

We don't think there's any better way to say I love you than reminding the women we value the importance of doing things that may one day save their lives.

They may be annoyed at first, but if they actually detect a malignant growth, trust us, they thank you.

And we know you'll thank yourselves.

## -LETTER TO THE EDITOR

I would like to start this article agreeing with the Editor in Chief that author of the editorial, "Greek life a waste of money," is entitled to her own opinion. However, I also have the right to mine. This is not an editorial to criticize her, rather to clear some misconceptions she has publicly stated.

I would challenge anyone who believes Greeks are paying for friends to ask any Greek on this campus if they feel like they are just paying for their friends. Not one will agree with that statement. If research had been conducted, it would have been found out that the dues collected do not profit the chapters or any individual members. Dues go towards internationals, philanthropies, homecoming, and other basic functions of the chapter. As far as the t-shirts, sweatshirts, and other paraphernalia, it is all optional.

We understand that being Greek is not for everyone, but we would love to be able to call every person on this campus our fraternity brother or sorority sister. It is not right or wrong that we can not; it is just a difference in opinions between Greeks and independents. It is true that Greeks are cliquey, we enjoy hanging out with our friends, but so do independents. Those who are not in Greek organizations have their own cliques whom they enjoy hanging out with.

The claim is made that joining a Greek organization takes up too much of students' time. That is correct, being Greek does require a time commitment, but so does being an athlete, running Bearcat Vision on game day, having your own show on X106, or even being a staff member of the Northwest Missourian. As far as weekly meetings, most organizations on this campus meet once a week if not more. Specifically, homecoming is mentioned. Greek organizations do spend a great amount of time working on float. However, what would the homecoming parade be like if the large floats, mini floats, and clowns Greek Life puts together were not involved? No other organization puts together floats as big or as intricate and the ones by Greek organizations. Finally, concerning the time commitment, the author states that students who go Greek could be missing out on other organizations and the opportunities they provide. Actually, most chapters



## -COLUMN

## Life a journey, not a destination

Stephanie Stangl  
*Editor-in-Chief*

Happiness truly is what you make of it.

So many of us wait until everything in our lives is right on course—perfect even—until we consider ourselves happy. With life being so imperfect, it's no wonder so many disgruntled people wander around searching for the secret to happiness that may one day come.

One of the biggest misconceptions about Greek life is that they can only be friends with people in their organizations. This is completely untrue. I am a senior on this campus and have been Greek since my first semester freshman year. I not only have friends in other Greek organizations, I have friends who are independents.

We understand that being Greek is not for everyone, but we would love to be able to call every person on this campus our fraternity brother or sorority sister. It is not right or wrong that we can not; it is just a difference in opinions between Greeks and independents. It is true that Greeks are cliquey, we enjoy hanging out with our friends, but so do independents. Those who are not in Greek organizations have their own cliques whom they enjoy hanging out with.

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Anything can truly be good or bad—it's how you perceive the problem that makes all the difference. I challenge each of you to change your perspective surrounding what you consider the less enjoyable aspects of life.

For instance, I used to come to work at the Northwest Missourian and complain of 15-hour days and not having time for other aspects of my life. In turn I believe I was decreasing staff morale. Some days are longer than others, but everyday I come to work now I try to smile and be positive, keeping in the back of my mind that I am helping people become better writers, hundreds of people read what my staff pens each week and with some stories the Northwest Missourian provides

a public service.

My 42-year-old mother was recently diagnosed with a brain aneurism in April. At first I was devastated, wondering why such a horrible thing had to happen to our family. At virtually any time she could be gone if it ruptures. However, doctors are monitoring the growth of the aneurism, and she is doing fine for the time being.

I believe everything happens for a reason. Right around diagnosis, we were fighting constantly and taking each other for granted. Suffice to say, we do little of that now. I could lose my mother at any moment, but instead of focusing on that, I am trying to be happy for her knowing that makes her happy, too. You may not be able to change your life, but you can most definitely change your attitude.

God, or whatever Higher Power you believe in, wants us to celebrate life is simply too short not to.

each day and be thankful for the time we have. I believe our Higher Power also wants us to know the difference between what we can change and what we can't, which also contributes to our happiness and overall well-being. While it can be extremely hard, sometimes we just need to relinquish control to our Higher Power, knowing he or she loves us enough to keep our best interest at heart.

I am no longer in the business to control people, emotions or outcomes, and I suggest you do the same. There is serenity in determining what's within your control and what you need to leave to your Higher Power and fate.

Why not wake up each morning with a smile, giving the new day a chance to bring whatever may bring knowing you will be OK as long as you're alive?

Life is simply too short not to.

## -COLUMN

## Bearcat sportsmanship hits new low



I felt our fans were especially vulgar. From the moment I sat down I could hear chants pairing the word "Griffins" with a certain four-letter explosive verb. There were also several points during the game where I glanced over to see Bearcat fans proudly giving the Missouri Western team, coaches and student section the one-finger salute.

Now, I'd like to point out a couple of things. First of all, I'm no prude to foul language and behavior. I think I've seen and heard it all, and am really in no way sensitive to it. Also, I realize we are most certainly not the only school whose football fans believe team spirit means dropping

the "f-bomb" or other obscenities at every possible opportunity. You'd probably be hard-pressed to find a college football game on any given day without these kinds of spectators. Where I draw the line is when there are people in the stadium who are sensitive to these kinds of things. People like Little "Jobby" Bearcat, who was seated just a few rows behind me.

How hard is it to keep the family-unfriendly comments to yourself, especially on a day that is supposed to be family-friendly? Jeering at the opposing team is one thing, but singling out a player and making a degrading joke about his appearance or performance? I'm sure his parents, possibly sitting within earshot, really appreciate your kind sportsmanship.

We are Bearcats. Let's show our football team how proud we are of their undefeated season and bring sportsmanship back to the level it should be—a good one.

I hope it doesn't reach the point

where the Motion Picture Association of America has to start slapping ratings on our games, but it feels like the situation gets worse with each event.

Our next home game is Oct. 7 against Emporia State. I challenge all Bearcat fans to be respectful of those sitting around you.

Use the hands you would normally use to flip the bird to the opposing team to clap along with a song from our talented Bearcat Marching Band. Use the mouth you would normally use to curse out the opposing coach to cheer on our team with the Northwest cheerleaders.

We are Bearcats. Let's show our football team how proud we are of their undefeated season and bring sportsmanship back to the level it should be—a good one.

I hope it doesn't reach the point

## CAMPUSTALK

## What is your hidden talent?



"I can put my legs over my head and walk,"  
Sarah Hobbie  
Hobbies



"I am double jointed everywhere,"  
Kyle Andrew  
Physics



"I am a great singer in the shower,"  
Andrea Novak  
Speech Communication



"I can unwrap a Starburst in my mouth,"  
Johanna Kidd  
Elementary Education

## Deer hunting more than killing; residents see many benefits

By Matthew Elliott  
*Missourian Reporter*

On a dark fall morning a man walks through the woods, rifle in hand and covered in camouflage. A thick fog hangs over a distant field, barely visible through the tree branches and leaves.

A light breeze blows as a stick breaks nature's silence. Through the fog a deer slowly becomes visible.

During deer season, for archery, which is underway now, and for firearms, which starts statewide in November, these are the aspects that add to the thrill of hunting that spreads from coast to coast and all over the world.

With fewer people hunting in an area the chance of getting to make a kill is greater. Conservation areas can also be good places to hunt, but can become crowded at times, making it harder to enjoy the experience.

Whisman also said that open fields and tree lines are great places to find wildlife because they have freedom to roam around along with cover in the tree line. A patch of trees and brush in the middle of an open field is very good as well.

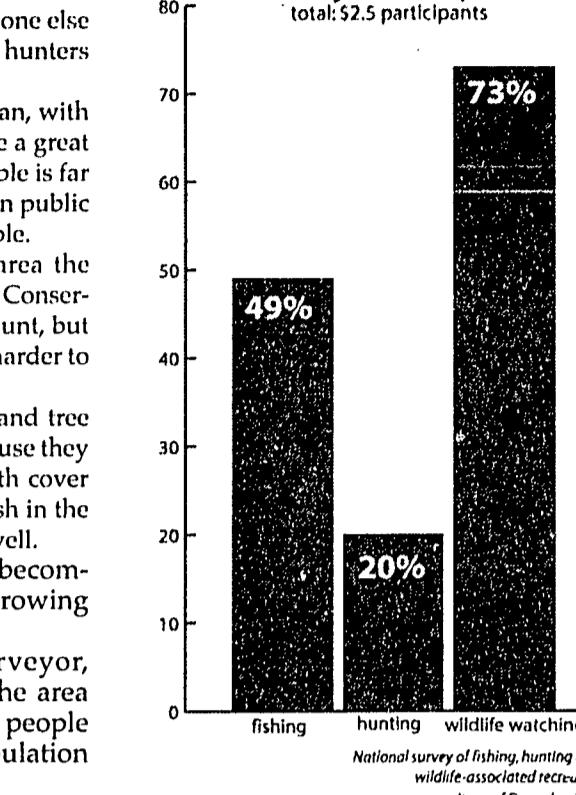
Finding good places to hunt is becoming more and more difficult with a growing number of area hunters.

Derek Smith, an area deer surveyor, estimates that about 65 percent of the area population hunts. Large numbers of people hunting can be very effective in population control.

According to Smith, a first time hunter can easily spend close to \$1,000 in preparation, however the average avid hunter will only spend around \$50 for tags and ammunition.

Big Bird's Bait and Bow sells almost anything one could need to get started in hunting. Ciak says that bow hunters tend to spend more however with the average hunter spending close to \$200 each season for tags, new arrows and bow maintenance.

Total Percentage of Activity Participants  
total: 52.5 participants



Thanks to Conservation Departments, like that of Missouri, hunting is a very environmentally friendly sport that can also be inexpensive and easy to control.

The Department of Conservation says that hunting can also be used in land management. For example, a farmer has a pasture that he doesn't use, so he plants some foliage and creates a small timber. This timber can become a habitat for many native animals without hunting.

The sport of hunting has many effects on the environment. It is used to control animal populations and prevent overpopulation, which can ultimately lead to extinction of a species.

Overpopulation can cause disease and defects in animals that can naturally kill off all of a certain species. With hunting we are able to control the possibility of that and keep those animals alive.

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## Northwest band looks to recruit high schoolers

Sarah Dulinsky  
*Missourian Reporter*

The Bearcat Marching Band has high hopes to recruit high school students for next year's ensemble this weekend.

# Family Day attracts thousands

Evan Young  
University Editor

David was a pitcher for the Bearcat baseball team from 1976 to 1979. His son Nick also plays Bearcat baseball. One of his daughters, Kristin, is a Northwest graduate student and another, Kim, is a Student Ambassador.

They are the Pfeiffers of Green City, Mo., and because of their strong connection to Northwest, they were selected as the 2006 Family of the Year, sponsored by ARAMARK, the University's food service and maintenance vendor.

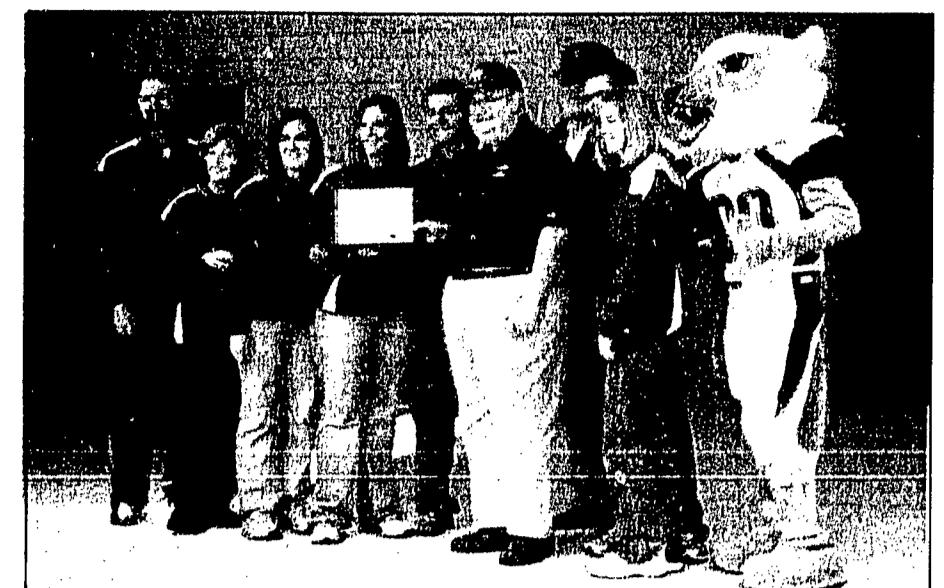
Nominated for the honor by Kim, the family joined Northwest president Dean Hubbard on the field at Bearcat Stadium in front of nearly 9,000 people to be recognized and receive their \$500 scholarship during Northwest's Family Day Saturday.

Only at an event like this year's Family Day could jambalaya and Bobby Bearcat have something in common.

Hundreds of members of Northwest's immediate and extended family came to campus to reunite with their sons and/or daughters, see old friends, dine on authentic Cajun cuisine and watch the Bearcat football team beat the Missouri Western State University Griffins 24-21.

It all began at 9 a.m. with an open house for alumni and their parents, followed by Student Ambassador-led campus tours.

Then it was off to pre-game festivities at College Park, where the aroma and smoke from tailgaters' grills filled the air and the classic rock sounds of the Gypsy Hippies could be heard as far away as the



The Pfeiffer family, from Green City, Mo., receives the Family of the Year award prior to the start of the Northwest football game, Saturday. The Pfeiffers received a \$500 scholarship from ARAMARK, who sponsors the contest.

County adopted Eunice as a "Sister City" after it took on damage and thousands of evacuees from Hurricane Katrina and Rita last year. Through the efforts of a group of local volunteers, known as the Nodaway County Hurricane Relief Task Force, Eunice has received nearly \$20,000 in relief funding in addition to countless donations of household goods and appliances.

"After Katrina, I decided we could accomplish a great deal if we selected a sister city and stayed with them," Northwest president Dean Hubbard said. "Our people started looking for alumni who were impacted, and we came up with Eunice."

"One of our graduates is the superintendent of schools down there, so it's really a perfect match," he said.

"At LSU-E, they're called the Bengal, but obviously today they are Bearcats," he said.

Family Day's theme this year was Cajun in honor of three students visiting from Louisiana State University in Eunice.

Northwest and Nodaway

residence halls.

Green shirts

lined up to sample the jambalaya, corn bread, Cajun brats, beans and rice, while Bobby Bearcat mingled and took pictures with his fans.

"There's just a great turnout today—it's all wonderful. Our food was delicious, too," Maryville resident Pam Nelson said.

Nelson was there with neighbor Diana Spire to support the Bearcat football team, especially her son, No. 65 center Matt Nelson.

Spire, whose son is a former Bearcat football player, said she and her neighbors always show their team spirit on game days.

"We have three Bearcat football players living in a row," she said. "We all put our green flags out, so when the opposing team comes up Munn Road, they know they're in Bearcat country."

Spire also marveled at the popularity of Northwest football outside of the Maryville area.

"Being a local person, Northwest football has really put us on the map. It's so cool when my sister in Chicago is watching the Bearcats on ESPN," she said.

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Northwest and Nodaway

## BALDRIGE: Northwest refused site visit

continued from 1A

Therefore, if one examiner believes an applicant fails in one of the 29 items, his or her opinion can negatively affect the applicant's overall score, with little room for any positive input from other examiners.

"Applying is like rolling a dice," Hubbard said.

He said the feedback reports the University receives from the judges are often inconsistent and much of the information is "flat out wrong." He noted he knew of no fact-checking procedure in place before the feedback reports are sent out.

"Hopefully, the feedback report will give some clue, but I'm not holding my breath," he said.

Hubbard said there was virtually no change in either the program's scoring guidelines or the information submitted in the University's award application this year, except a few noted improvements in the "results" category that occurred over the past year. It does not justify a lower placement, he said.

The Baldrige program's evaluation process is similar to that of the Missouri Quality Award, which Northwest has won on three occasions. However, Hubbard said that program corrected all of its process flaws.

Northwest pays \$55,000 in application fees to apply for an award each year. The money covers distribution expenses, application review and feedback report preparation, according to the Baldrige Award Web site.

Created in 1987 in honor of the late Secretary of Commerce Malcolm Baldrige, the Baldrige Award "recognizes U.S. organizations for their achievements in quality and performance and to raise awareness about the importance of quality and performance excellence as a competitive edge," according to the program's Web site.

However, Hertz deflected the program's examination process, noting that indeed the judging standards had been raised this time around.

"The judges raised the bar because of the increasingly large number of good applications seen," Hertz said.

"The scoring guidelines have not changed, but the judges decided to draw the line at a higher level than in the past. They look at each applicant's scoring profile, how they score across the board, particularly more in the 'results' category

than the other 'process' categories. As a result, they were more stringent."

Hertz said an applicant's band score is re-evaluated as the application passes through each stage of review. For example, the band score of an applicant receiving a site visit may be higher or lower after the visit than before, depending on the outcome of the visit.

Northwest's band score may have been high after the initial Independent Review, but dropped after the Consensus Review.

The University's feedback report will arrive in mid-November. Hubbard said Northwest will not apply for the Baldrige Award again until the program makes improvements to its evaluation process.

He plans to expand on research he did of the program's examination process in 2002 to point out areas needing improvement. Northwest will examine feedback reports from a number of applicants, looking for any inconsistencies similar to the ones allegedly found in the University's previous reports.

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## GAS: Prices drop shortly before election

continued from 1A

and gas consumption.

"I'm not a conspiracy guy, but I'm a suspicious guy," Lamer said.

Marsh said that after elections she could see gas prices jump back up.

"It seems absurd to fork over billions of dollars to oil companies who are already seem to be doing pretty darn well," Marsh said.

Dan Smith, an associate professor in the his-

torical, humanities, philosophy and political science department, said there are several variables that affect gas prices.

Smith said he could see prices creep back up and that it is inevitable that gas prices will someday be as high as \$5 a gallon.

Lamer also said that gas prices will probably continue to drop but after elections are over it will probably be as high as \$5 a gallon.

"If I had a 500 gallon holding tank, I'd be filling it right now," Lamer said.

"Not only is Hy-Vee the cheapest place to fill my gas hog because of the discount, they also have all sorts of coffees, cappuccinos and ready-to-go deli meals."

Arron Jones  
Northwest Grad Student

**NOW OPEN**



**Hy-Vee**  
Gas

Open Daily  
6:00am - Midnight

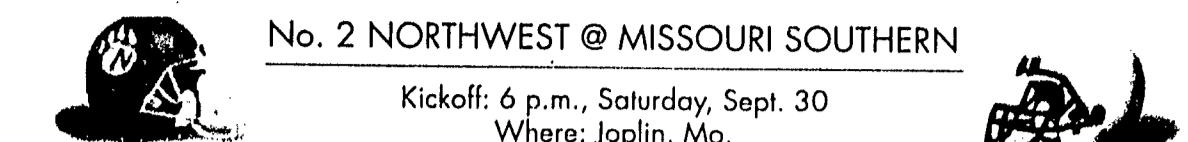
3¢ Off Every Gallon  
With Hy-Vee Receipt

see COACHES on 2B

Katie Stillwell, center, celebrates with teammates after scoring a point against Missouri Western during the Bearcats matchup Wednesday. See 3B for more Northwest volleyball.

No. 2 NORTHWEST @ MISSOURI SOUTHERN

Kickoff: 6 p.m., Saturday, Sept. 30  
Where: Joplin, Mo.

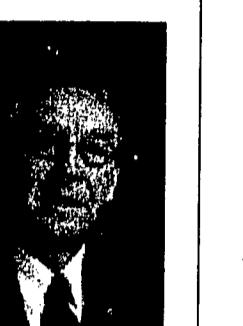


- COACHES FEATURE

## Nothing but respect

Former Northwest coach looks for first victory against previous mentor

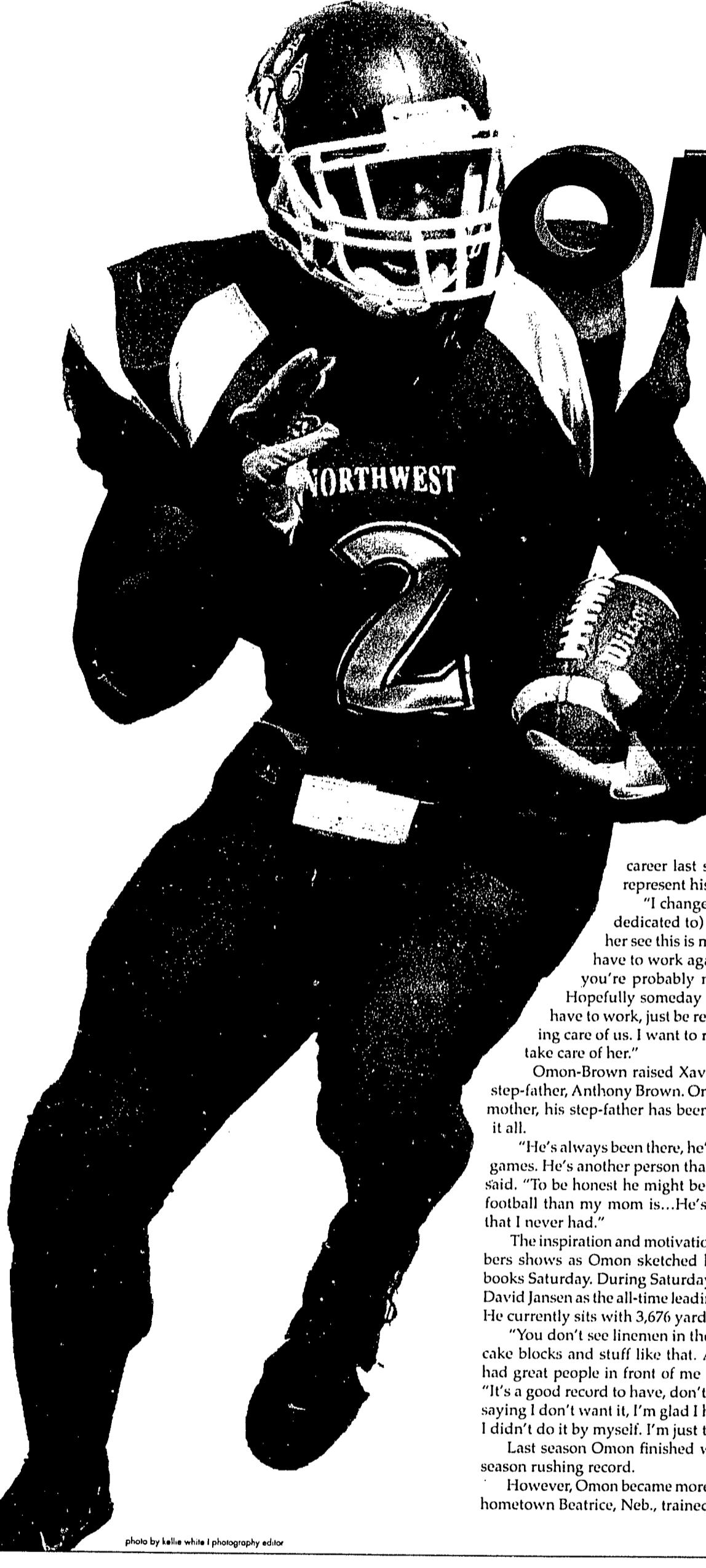
Jerome Boettcher,  
Brett Barger  
Sports Editor,  
Assistant Sports Editor



Mel Tjeerdema  
Northwest Coach



Bart Tatum  
Missouri Southern Coach



**THE OMON**  
Junior running back Xavier Omon has more on his mind than football when he runs

Jerome Boettcher  
Sports Editor

Look closely.  
That's not just Xavier Omon running out there.

He's carrying the load of three.  
When Omon switched his jersey number from 33 to 2, this past season, he did it with a purpose.

Two have Omon's brothers have passed away. His older brother, Dimitrius Omon, was killed by a drunk driver when Xavier was only 10. Then in 2000, another brother, Elifong, committed suicide. Through all the tragedy in his life, Omon has stayed strong, and credits much of it to his mother Deloris Omon-Brown.

"She's been a great inspiration," Omon said. "She's been through so much. She's been knocked down and she's gotten right back up. That's the way I look at life, if she can do it, then I should be able to do it to. She's great motivation."

When Omon came to Northwest in 2003, safety Pat Whitt already wore No. 2. But after Whitt finished his football career last season, Omon jumped on the chance to change his jersey to represent his two brothers.

"I changed my number for them," Omon said. "More so (this season is

The tape on Omon

Season stats

Att	Net	Avg.	TD	LG	Avg./G
249	1,575	6.3	19	91	121.2
					2005
307	1,643	5.3	14	70	117.4
					2006 (through four games)
111	503	4.1	8	33	114.5

Northwest career rushing leaders

1. Xavier Omon
2004-present — 3,676 yards
2. David Jansen
1997-2000 — 3,535 yards
3. Ed Tillison
1987-1991 — 3,456 yards

Northwest single season

rushing leaders

1. Jesse Haynes

1996 — 1,829 yards

2. Xavier Omon

2005 — 1,643 yards

## -MHS FOOTBALL

### Maryville hopes to stifle defending state champions

Brett Barger  
Assistant Sports Editor

Dealing with some injuries they accumulated on Friday night, Defensive tackle Zach Sherry, who is second on the team in sacks (1.5) and eighth in tackles (10) is out with a concussion. Running back Malcolm Swinford, who is second on the team in rushing, is dealing with bruised ribs. Swinford wore a red vest in practice Tuesday with his ribs heavily wrapped.

Maryville football coach Chris Holt said Swinford will start and that his production will depend on how he feels during the game.

"We look a little too much out of the Benton game," Maryville linebacker Tyler Oglesby said. "We played with them and we thought 'hey, we're not as bad as we thought we are' and sure enough we came out a little flat at Smithville with it and came back to haunt us."

The Spoofhounds also are

dealing with some injuries they

accumulated on Friday night.

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## COACHES: Tatum, Tjeerdsma face-off Saturday

continued from 1B

ground game with 76 yards a game and comes off a 103-yard game against rival Pittsburg State.

"There is a lot of familiarity," said Northwest free safety Tyler Martin. "Their quarterback is very gifted, he has a good arm, he poses some threats...but it comes down to who executes the best."

Cornerback Quinten Womack said the defense just has to hold Missouri Southern's potentially explosive offense—which scores an average of 31 points per game. Northwest's defense has held opponents to 11.2

points per game, good for second best in the conference.

"We don't expect to shut down the offense," Womack said. "We just have to be covering them."

On defense, Missouri Southern leads the conference in turnover margin with plus five turnovers. Northwest's defense is a close second with plus four turnover differential.

"It's one of those games where mistakes can be a big factor," Tjeerdsma said.

Quarterback Josh Mathews enters the game with a 64.1 percent completion percentage and 236.5 passing yards per game, best in the conference.

## OMON: Running back out to prove himself nationally

continued from 1B

And in Omon's mind, as he was training in the offseason, was the national championship game. As he worked out and prepared for another season he just remembered one simple fact: he only carried the ball twice in the second half of the national championship game, after gaining more than 60 yards in the first half.

Northwest lost the game and the scarce amount of carries Omon received posed many "what ifs." Bart Tatum was the offensive coordinator at the time, and three days after the game, he took the head coaching job at Missouri Southern. Northwest's opponent this week,

"With Tatum, I was pretty mad when I found out he left just because after the championship game I was just disappointed that we obviously didn't run," Omon said. "I don't care if Mitch Herring was in there, I don't care who was in there I just thought we could have ran the ball and won the game."

"When I heard he took the Missouri Southern job, I'm not going to lie, that was the first thing that crossed my mind, 'when we play them I can't wait.'

Omon said though, after a summer to think, he couldn't blame Tatum and wishes him luck at Missouri Southern.

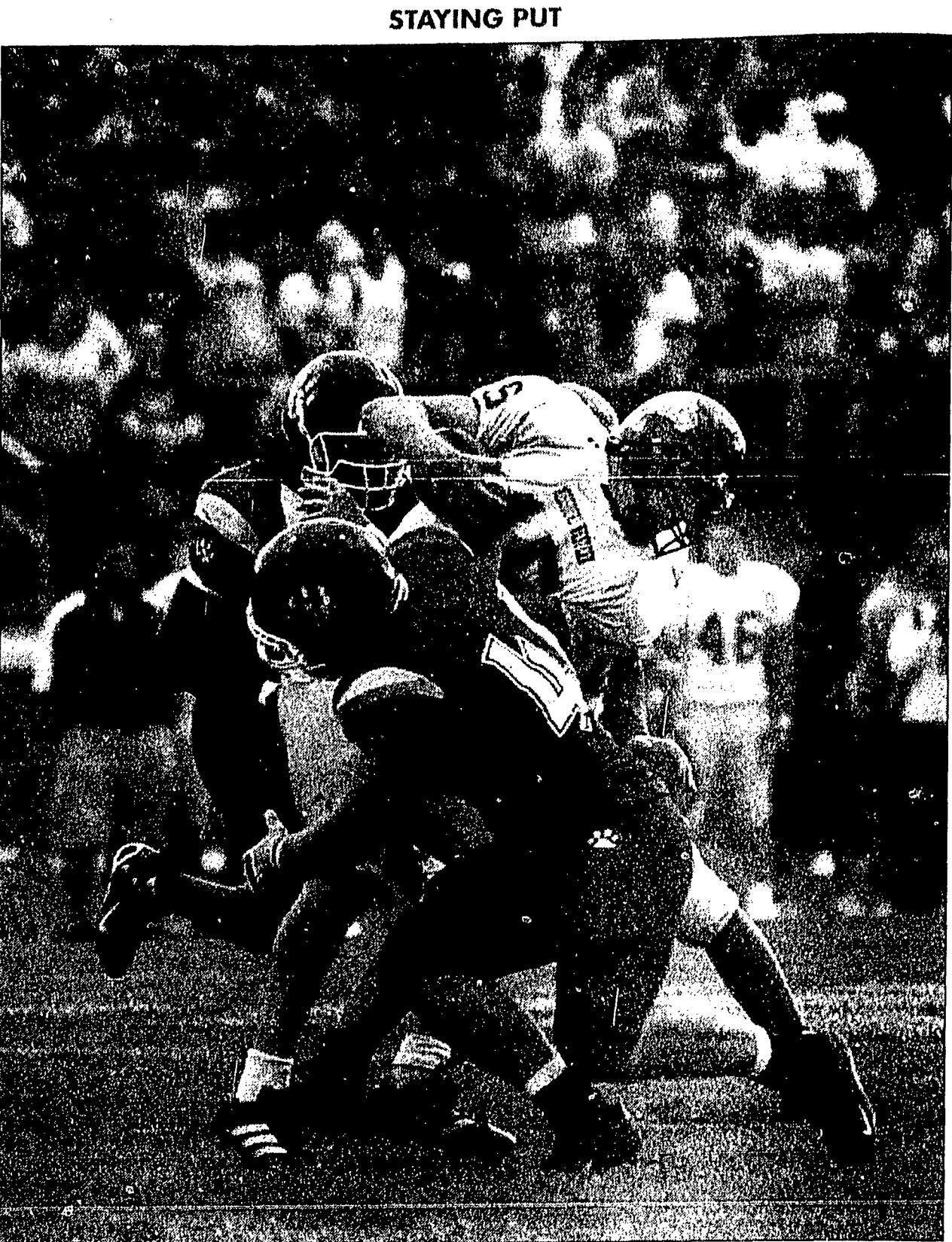
"Now that we've played a couple of games and I had all summer, I was off on my own, I

went back to Beatrice. I got time to think about some stuff. I can't blame him for that loss," Omon said. "I can't blame anybody, I guess I could move of the blame on myself. So I have nothing against Tatum...Coach Tatum is a great coach."

Omon enters the game averaging nearly 28 carries a game and he rushed a season-high 35 times Saturday. He has rushed for more than 100 yards in three of the first four games.

"It's good to know that Coach trusts you enough to give you the ball that much," Omon said. "And they're still talking about giving me the ball more. It's just a good feeling to know that your hard work in the offseason is paying off."

Northwest coach Mel Tjeerdsma said he can see the difference in Omon this season.



Northwest running back Xavier Omon turns a corner and rushes for a big gain against Missouri Western Saturday at Bearcat Stadium.

"He's a different player this year, he's having more fun," Tjeerdsma said. "He gets better as the game goes along...But we have to be a little careful with that (the amount of carries per game). We want to keep everybody healthy."

Omon's goal this year is simple: win the coveted championship that barely eluded the 'Cats last season. But as for his overall mark at Northwest, Omon has set the bar high.

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### BY THE NUMBERS: NORTHWEST VS. MISSOURI SOUTHERN

Scoring	
Northwest 29.2	Missouri Southern 31.0
First Downs Allowed	
Northwest 65	
Missouri Southern 78	
Scoring Defense	
Northwest 11.2	Missouri Southern 29.5
Time of Possession per game	
Northwest 31:56	Missouri Southern 32:37
Passing yards per game	
Northwest 237.5	Missouri Southern 224.2
Passing Defense	
Northwest 171.5	Missouri Southern 250.5
Rushing yards per game	
Northwest 132.2	Missouri Southern 123.2
Rushing Defense	
Northwest 89.5	Missouri Southern 136.8
Sacked-Yards Lost	
Northwest 12-63	Missouri Southern 7-48
First Downs	
Northwest 5-22	Missouri Southern 6-45
Sacks Allowed-Yards Lost	
Northwest 1-1	Missouri Southern 1-1
Receiving Leaders	
Northwest	
Jordan Chapman - 25 tackles, 10 solo, 2 INT's	
Tommy Frevert - 22 tackles, 24 solo, 1.0 sacks, 1 forced fumble	
Missouri Southern	
Moses Munga - 24 tackles, 15 solo, 2 INT's	
Elbert Johnson - 19 tackles, 11 solo, 2.0 sacks	
Defensive Leaders	
Northwest	
Thomas Smith - 29 tackles, 24 solo, 1.0 sacks, 1 forced fumble	
Ben Harness - 20 tackles, 13 solo, 1.0 sacks	
Missouri Southern	
Ryan Waters - 18 tackles, 10 solo 3.0 sacks	
Jared Ersperer - 17 tackles, 13 solo, 2 INT's	
Sean Paddock - 8 tackles, 7 solo, 1.5 sacks	
Opponents Time of Poss.	
Northwest 20:04	Missouri Southern 27:21
Passing Leaders	
Northwest	
Josh Mathews - 66-103, 946 yards, 7 TD's, 1 INT Northwest	
Adam Hinspeter - 81-112, 897 yards, 4 TD's, 2 INT's	
Missouri Southern	
Sean Paddock - 8 tackles, 7 solo, 1.5 sacks	
Passing Defense	
Northwest 237.5	Missouri Southern 224.2
Rushing Leaders	
Northwest	
Xavier Omon - 11 carries, 458 yards, 8 TD's, 4 1.0 YPC Northwest	
Ronnell Newman - 62 carries, 304 yards, 4 TD's, 4.9 YPC Missouri Southern	
Rushing Defense	
Northwest 89.5	Missouri Southern 136.8
Sacked-Yards Lost	
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Adam Hinspeter - 81-112, 897 yards, 4 TD's, 2 INT's	
Missouri Southern	
Sean Paddock - 8 tackles, 7 solo, 1.5 sacks	
Passing Defense	
Northwest 237.5	Missouri Southern 224.2
Rushing Leaders	
Northwest 132.2	Missouri Southern 123.2
Rushing Defense	
Northwest 89.5	Missouri Southern 136.8
Sacked-Yards Lost	
Northwest 12-63	Missouri Southern 7-48
First Downs	
Northwest 5-22	Missouri Southern 6-45
Sacks Allowed-Yards Lost	
Northwest 1-1	Missouri Southern 1-1
Receiving Leaders	
Northwest	
Jordan Chapman - 25 tackles, 10 solo, 2 INT's	
Tommy Frevert - 22 tackles, 24 solo, 1.0 sacks, 1 forced fumble	
Missouri Southern	
Moses Munga - 24 tackles, 15 solo, 2 INT's	
Elbert Johnson - 19 tackles, 11 solo, 2.0 sacks	
Defensive Leaders	
Northwest	
Thomas Smith - 29 tackles, 24 solo, 1.0 sacks, 1 forced fumble	
Ben Harness - 20 tackles, 13 solo, 1.0 sacks	
Missouri Southern	
Ryan Waters - 18 tackles, 10 solo 3.0 sacks	
Jared Ersperer - 17 tackles, 13 solo, 2 INT's	
Sean Paddock - 8 tackles, 7 solo, 1.5 sacks	
Opponents Time of Poss.	
Northwest 20:04	Missouri Southern 27:21
Passing Leaders	
Northwest	
Josh Mathews - 66-103, 946 yards, 7 TD's, 1 INT Northwest	
Adam Hinspeter - 81-112, 897 yards, 4 TD's, 2 INT's	
Missouri Southern	
Sean Paddock - 8 tackles, 7 solo, 1.5 sacks	
Passing Defense	
Northwest 237.5	Missouri Southern 224.2
Rushing Leaders	
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Defensive Leaders	
Northwest	
Thomas Smith - 29	

## -MHS SOCCER



photo by jessica nelson | contributing photographer

Spooftound's Chad Proctor kicks the ball upfield during Maryville's game against Smithville Tuesday afternoon. The 'Hounds lost the game 4-1.

## Smithville runs past Maryville

Sam Robinson  
Missourian Reporter

After putting together consecutive victories, the Maryville Spooftounds' soccer team dropped one to Smithville on Tuesday.

The 'Hounds lost 4-1 to the experienced Warriors, who have qualified for the state tournament two out of the past three seasons.

Coch Stuart Collins felt playing a team like Smithville will give his team a chance to see a strong squad in action and fix some of their bad tendencies.

"I look forward to it every time they come here, it gives us a chance to learn," Collins said. "If we're not going to win, at least we can learn from their quality of play."

The majority of the first half

was spent near the Maryville goal as Smithville dictated the pace of the game.

The Warriors swiftly passed the ball around adjacent 'Hound defenders with frequency and consistently beat them to the ball defensively.

"We really responded in the second half. These guys don't know how to quit,"

-Stuart Collins, coach

The game went into the half with the deficit at 3-0.

Freshman defenseman Evan Johnson was one of the players having to continually help protect the net against Smithville scoring threats.

"A lot of it was their pressure. They had very well-placed passes," Johnson said. "We knew we had been scored on a lot in the first half and there was some frustration in the second half but the damage was done."

Goalie John Seipel helped out his team's cause by crafting a near-perfect half in only allowing one goal despite many seeing a barrage of shots and making several acrobatic saves in the process.

Junior midfielder Jon Rogers scored the 'Hounds lone goal within seconds of the closing whistle to avoid the shutout.

Even in the loss, Collins saw a turnaround to build on during the second period.

"We really responded in the second half," Collins said. "These guys don't know how to quit."

Maryville now stands at 4-6-1 and continues its season at 4:30 p.m. today at Donaldson Park against Bishop LeBlond.

"We knew we had to play on their level and above."

The 'Hounds got to the Warriors' level in the second half but the damage was done.

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## -MHS SOFTBALL

## 'Hounds halt comeback

Scott Levine  
Missourian Reporter

It looked as if Caitlin Woods would cruise on the mound for the Maryville High School softball team, Monday.

Woods had a no-hitter through four innings, but host Lafayette mustered two runs in the fifth and one run in the sixth to tie the game at three runs apiece. Only one of Lafayette's runs was earned.

"No matter how the other team gets runs, whether earned or unearned, I try to pitch better and try to keep the attitudes of my teammates up," Woods said.

In the end, the Spooftounds' bats helped Woods towards the win, stringing together six runs in the final inning, preserving a 9-3 victory.

Woods finished with five strikeouts and the team's performance pleased Maryville coach Jacqui Conn.

"As the season is coming to a close, I think we want to fight more," Conn said. "They're trying to pick it up for districts."

The 'Hounds start district play Oct. 5.

After Lafayette notched one

run in the sixth inning to bring the score to 3-3, the ninth hitter in the 'Hounds line-up, Kendra Coulter, started a key seventh-inning rally.

Coulter led off with a walk and Jordan Gadbois followed with a single for Maryville. Emily Howell loaded the bases after a single and Lindsay Schreck knocked in the go-ahead run off an error.

After the inning finished, the 'Hounds delivered four hits, six runs and three RBI. Mariah Stiens had the lone extra base hit with a two-run double.

"The girls just started hitting the ball and (Lafayette) just couldn't do anything quite right," Conn said. "It was like a domino effect and we just fed off each other."

Howell ended with two hits and one RBI while Schreck registered two RBI. Coulter and Lizz Pfoft each had two hits.

"We fight until the end of the game," Woods said. "We are not going to give up."

The 'Hounds improved to 5-9 overall with the win. Maryville returns to action at 5 p.m., Thursday, against North Platte in Dearborn, Mo.

## NFL WATCH

Three former Northwest football players recently made the jump to the National Football League. Here is a brief look at where the three currently are playing.



Steve Williams  
Kansas City Chiefs



Jamaica Rector  
Dallas Cowboys



Dave Tollefson  
Green Bay Packers

The defensive tackle is in his second year in the NFL and has returned four punts for 22 yards in one game this season.

The defensive end is in his first year in the NFL and is currently a member of the practice squad.

## -INTRAMURALS

## Intramural softball leads season

Nate Gonner  
Missourian Reporter

As the leaves start to turn colors and autumn comes into full swing, the sound of metal can be heard from Donaldson Park, making one want to hold on to that last bit of summer.

With 36 teams separated into four leagues (fraternity, sorority, men's and women's) intramural softball is one of the major intramural happening on the Northwest campus right now.

The championship tourna-

ment started Tuesday and runs through today. Intramural softball games were being played at Donaldson Park on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 3:30 p.m. to 6 p.m. Games lasted 40 minutes. However, with the

month of November being so close to the start of school, it has some personnel wanting to change the dates intramural softball is held.

"I don't like it just

because it is so early and it doesn't allow people to get oriented with intramurals yet," said softball graduate assistant Kristin Larsen said.

"It doesn't get warm enough

in the spring for softball, otherwise we would probably try it in the spring. But it is one of those things trying to get people involved as soon as they get into school."

Although softball might

be coming to a close there are more intramural softball starting up in the next few weeks.

Swim meets and flag football

start in October and

volleyball, badminton, and pickle ball all start in the

## -MHS FOOTBALL

## CAMERON: 'Hounds face conference rival

continued from 1B

to stop him, but you've got to slow him down."

On the defensive side of the football, Maryville matches up fairly even to Cameron. Oglesby leads the 'Hounds in tackles (37.5) while Jordan Tharp leads the Dragons (26). Maryville gives up more points (26.8) than Cameron (16.0).

In three of Maryville's first four games, they have given up 30 or more points. Cameron's worst defensive performance came in week 2 against state-ranked Harrisonville, when they gave up 27 points.

A win against Cameron would go a long way for a team that sits at 1-3 in the MEC. With games against Platte County and Savannah left on the MEC schedule, Holt said it was important for the team to shape up before district play begins.

"We've got to get as good as we can to fit into districts," Holt said. "We don't want to lose these next three MEC games and go into districts with one win because that's terrible."

Kickoff for the game is set for 7 p.m., Friday, in Cameron.

The 'Hounds

are

the

team

that

is

# String Me along

Northwest student Justin Downing isn't seeking fortune or fame, he plays the guitar on his own terms

I'm not really teaching, but more sharing a method with someone like if you were to show me how to add apples.



Tara Adkins  
Chief Reporter

He doesn't play to be famous. He doesn't play to get rich. He plays to teach and learn the challenge of the guitar.

Northwest freshman Justin Downing uses his guitar to teach other students the beneficial techniques and strategies of playing guitar. "I can't think of anything that I don't like about the guitar because it's so soothing; it gets people's attention but it can still help me with school," Downing said.

When he was in eighth grade, Downing's parents gave him a Fender Stratocaster for Christmas even though he expressed no desire to play. Since he seemed bored in class and was not involved in extra-curricular activities, his teacher suggested a musical instrument would provide a challenge for him.

"Music helps expand the mind and the abilities of a person," Chris Coberman, Downing's mother, said. "Because music helps the mind, it helped him."

Three years after receiving the guitar, Downing lay restless and unable to sleep one night. He turned to his guitar, which had never been touched, and decided to play. The Fender Stratocaster cured his insomnia and gave him a desire for music.

Downing taught himself the basic three-chord

progressions through repetition until he could play music of all genres including jazz, classical, improv blues and rock.

As a senior in high school, Downing took his ability to play guitar and tied the music with

studying for his college-credit classes. Downing would recognize biology genetic sequences by basing tour notes on the guitar with the four genetic letters A, C, G and T, which helped him connect his music with biology.

"I would read my textbook while playing the guitar and when I went to class I could

think of the notes and the things would come with them and I would ace

every test without that much

studying," Downing said.

After his

friends convinced him, Downing has taught several other students the basic theory of guitar. He is willing to teach basic hand structure, building chords and the memorization of the fret board.

"I'm not really teaching, but more sharing a

method with someone like if you were to show a 2-year-old how to add apples," Downing said.

Downing offers free technique lessons to anyone interested who has a guitar. He can be contacted through e-mail at S200723@nwms.sour.edu.

"I'm not good enough to teach Bach, but I'm good enough to teach you to teach yourself how to play Bach," Downing said.

**Northwest student** Justin Downing spends some of his time giving guitar lessons which helps finance his education. He got started playing the guitar when his mother gave him one for Christmas, even though he had never asked for one.

Photo by Apophysis